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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
TSUYOSHI SATO, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: 10/820,712 :
FILED: APRIL 9, 2004 :
FOR: ALKALINE PROTEASE :

2ND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to an examination on the merits and in response to the Notice to Comply mailed September 20, 2004, the Applicants respectfully request entry of the following Preliminary Amendment.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.